

NATIONAL CONSORTIUM FOR BLACK PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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Executive Registry

77-1706

June 27, 1977

Admiral Stanford Turner, Director
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Washington, DC 20505

RE: Science & Engineering Newsletter for Black Students in Grades
4 through 8

Dear Admiral Turner:

As you are no doubt aware, the first issue of the Science and Engineering Newsletter for potentially science-gifted Black students in Grades 4 through 8 was published in May and circulated to approximately 15,000 students nationwide. In order to implement this pioneering project, we received initial support of \$15,000 from industry and a \$9,900 grant from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Currently, the circulation of the Newsletter is limited to those areas or communities from which corporate support was received, and the NASA grant has enabled us to extend circulation to other communities where NASA's facilities are located.

When the concept of this Newsletter was initially developed, we were operating under the assumption that since industry and the federal government are the largest employers of scientists and engineers, they would welcome the opportunity to support the project for the simple reason that it was purely in their self-interest to do so. This assumption has proven operational, although not sufficiently to enable us to defray all of the expenses incurred in publishing the Newsletter nor to expand its circulation to include more science-gifted students. Consequently, other NCBPD funds are being used to augment the support of the project until such time as industry and the federal government become more actively involved with it.

Our ultimate objective calls for distributing the Newsletter to the 3,000 school districts which enroll 90% of all Black elementary and junior high school students in the United States. Currently, we are reaching only a few of these communities. We believe that in order to attain proportional representation in the population with the majority scientists and engineers, coverage must be extended to potentially science-

During our annual Conference and Student Science Competition in Atlanta in May, our Board of Directors examined the options of increasing publication of the Newsletter to 150,000 by 1980 as called for in our initial proposal or holding to the current number of 15,000 in order to maintain costs at the point where they are now. The Board approved the former option, citing that "we feel we have not addressed the informational needs of all Black students in America in terms of career development in science and engineering" if we hold circulation to its current level. Therefore, the decision was made to move expeditiously ahead toward a circulation of 150,000 in the full cognizance that costs would increase at least seven-fold.

I should point out in addition that the Newsletter currently is being sent to all students at no cost to them. By circulating the Newsletter free of charge, we feel that countless talented students will be reached who otherwise could not afford an annual subscription. Consequently, economic deprivation will not serve as a deterrent to Black students with the latent capabilities to become scientists or engineers.

In order to insure that every potentially science-gifted Black student in Grades 4 through 8 in America receives personal copies of the Newsletter, we need your support and ask that you view this letter as a formal invitation for your organization to become actively involved.

I am sure you are aware that a project of this magnitude requires a well-trained staff and a variety of printing equipment. In terms of cost, staff positions will require annual funding, whereas equipment will constitute a one-time-cost item. We are asking certain organizations, federal agencies, and foundations to embrace costs involving both personnel and the purchase of essential equipment. We ask specifically that your organization support this project by a grant of \$51,674, or any portion thereof, to support for one year the salary of a Career Development Specialist, Travel, Telephone and Miscellaneous Items and to purchase an A-M 1870 Offset Printer.

Specifications are as follows:

1. Career Development Specialist Time 100% Salary: \$12,000

Job Description: The Career Development Specialist will assume responsibility for researching and writing all career development articles geared toward preparing and/or motivating Black students to consider science and engineering as possible career fields. Similarly, this individual shall have overall responsibility for the identification and preparation of materials for the "Fun and Games" section of the Newsletter which seeks to develop abstract reasoning processes and mathematical skills.

Qualifications: A Masters degree in Career Development together with a combined total of 3 years teaching and counseling experience. Additionally, this individual must have had experience or be able to demonstrate a capability for writing career development articles on science and engineering topics for Black children in Grades 4 through 8.

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2. <u>Travel Expenses</u>	For Interviews four (4) @ \$600	\$2,400
3. <u>Telephone</u>	@ \$250 per Month	\$2,800
4. Miscellaneous Supplies		\$3,500
5. 1 A-M 1870 Offset Printer with Chain Stacker & Accessories Shipping Charge		\$18,294.00 118.23 220.00
	Total Installed Cost	<u>\$18,624.23</u>

In terms of printing capacity, this particular machine will enable NCBPD to do a four (4) color process in-house at a much reduced price rather than cater to an outside printer as a higher cost. Currently, budget restraints enable us to do only a two (2) color process which limits the visual appeal of the Newsletter. This machine is very versatile in that it has the capacity to do both processes and the savings that will accrue to NCBPD by owning this machine will enable us to increase the number of Newsletter at a reduced cost while greatly adding to the eye appeal and overall attractiveness of the final product.

In terms of benefits, we are prepared to offer to you the same quid pro quo package that was accepted by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, i.e., we can assure you that the Newsletter will be circulated in communities in which you have facilities; we will feature articles from time to time on various topics of mutual interest to a student audience and your organization; we will feature stories or interviews focusing on selected Black scientists or engineers in your employ; and, moreover, provide information describing employment opportunities in science and engineering in your organization. In addition, as a small token of our appreciation of such involvement, we would bring to your attention the resumes of qualified, experienced, Black professional scientists and engineers from time to time. If we can agree that "a picture is worth a thousand words," the fact that the Newsletter will eventually go into 150,000 homes -- a projected 45,000 the first year-- your grant will have been well spent. The attached copy of the NASA contract and letter of commitment describe one method of how such an arrangement may be handled.

In order that you may become more fully informed of the dimensions of the total project, we have enclosed an abstract of the initial proposal together with a copy of the first issue of the Newsletter for your information, review and comment.

In closing, let me emphasize that we will appreciate your most serious consideration of our request. The development of additional Black engineers and scientists is crucial to America's remaining militarily and technologically strong. In this connection, the aggressive development of an awareness of career opportunities in science and engineering in younger Black students is absolutely essential if Black people are to be expected to make a proportionate contribution.

If you require additional information or if it is necessary that we meet with you and your representatives for a more detailed discussion of this request, we would be most happy to comply. Meanwhile, we appreciate the interest you have shown in minority professional development over the past several years.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

With warm regards,



Hanford D. Stafford, Ph.D.
Executive Director

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Enclosures

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